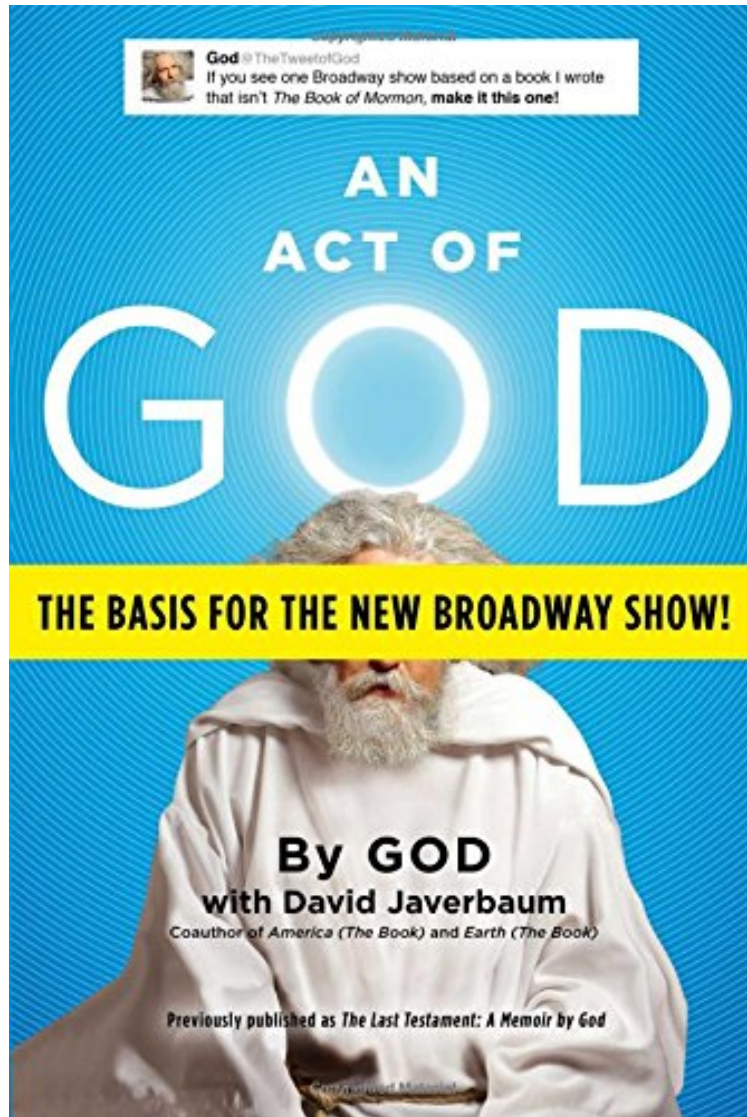


(Download free ebook) An Act of God: Previously Published as The Last Testament: A Memoir by God

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David Javerbaum

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#431579 in Books Simon Schuster 2015-05-05 2015-05-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.13 x 1.30 x 6.121, .0 #File Name: 1501122177464 pages Simon Schuster | File size: 49.Mb

David Javerbaum : An Act of God: Previously Published as The Last Testament: A Memoir by God before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Act of God: Previously Published as The Last Testament: A Memoir by God:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Hilarious and Blasphemous By Dave Edmiston Regardless of your faith, hopefully you have thick enough skin to enjoy a clever parody. God's spokesman, David Javerbaum, makes

equal fun of many faiths (including my own) in this book. His humor is fantastic. I first heard Javerbaum as a guest on the Adam Carolla podcast and thought he was a pretty funny clever guy. He wasn't necessarily plugging his book, but Carolla always promotes his guest's recent ventures and mentioned this book. It sounded interesting enough, so I picked it up. I'm very glad I did. This is all written in the first-person from the voice of God Almighty, the LORD our God, King of the Universe (as he puts it). I like his viewpoint and I like the way he struggles with understandable questions and challenges man has put forth throughout the ages: "...if thou hast power over what hath not yet come, canst thou not unspool the future with a gentler thread; one weaving a tapestry whereby righteousness is always rewarded, and evil always punished; so that mankind may behold with perfect clarity thine infinite justice?" Interesting; interesting,' I said. 'Yet I think I would prefer to work in mysterious ways.' "God chose Javerbaum well. He is the perfect mouthpiece to use as a so-called ghost writer. Javerbaum has a fantastic turn of phrase and his vocabulary is perfect for the voice of the LORD our God, King of the Universe. Luckily I read this on my Kindle where it's easy to highlight and look up unknown words in the dictionary. The topics are thought provoking and the book moves right along (with the exception of the chapter on the book of Revelation...that one drags a little and might be better as a movie). If you're an atheist or agnostic, then this book probably doesn't hold much for you. If you're Jewish or Christian, then loosen up your top button and enjoy the book. If you're Muslim, you're going to have to be slightly more open minded, however Javerbaum treats your faith very fairly and speaks well of Mohammad (and stops just short of supplying an illustration of your prophet). For the most part the blasphemy is pretty light-hearted. If it bugs you to read a quote from Jesus cursing "Dad Dammit!" then you shouldn't read this book. I'm glad the LORD our God, King of the Universe, selected Javerbaum to write this final work in the trilogy of testaments (Old, New, and Last). I'm glad I read it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is amazing. By Em G First of all, this is an absolute must read for anyone who ever followed @TheTweetOfGod on Twitter, or even laughed from a joke of his that was retweeted to their feed. That's one. Second, this is an absolute must read for Ricky Gervais fans, Daily Show with John Stewart fans, etc. If you're atheists, this is going to be a very fun read. If you're not necessarily atheists, I'm not sure about that, because I don't know how you guys think, and I'm not gonna pretend to know :) This is a hilarious satire of the bible, and I don't see what's better than that. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. You wont go to hell for reading this...go ahead and download it!!!! By Motherskiss I am reading this book for the third time. It's still makes me giggle. I grew up in a Pentecostal environment. Both my parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are all ordained ministers who oversee the church my grandfather literally built with his own two hands, so I know a little something about the Bible. Even if your mind is closed and can not see it for what it is, ENTERTAINMENT (albeit genius), ya have to give the man props for his research. If you found this book and read the complete title AND presumed this would be something other than imaginative fiction, thenthenI'm speechless!

An Act of God (previously published as The Last Testament: A Memoir) is now a major Broadway show starring Emmy Award winner Sean Hayes and directed by Joe Mantello (Wicked) Over the course of his long and distinguished career, God has literally seen it all. And not just seen. In fact, the multitalented deity has played a pivotal role in many major events, including the Creation of the universe, the entirety of world history, and the successful transitioning of American Idol into the post-Simon Cowell era. Sometimes preachy, sometimes holier-than-thou, but always lively, An Act of God is the ultimate celebrity autobiography.

“Presented as ‘A Memoir by God,’ the book comes divided into chapters and numbered verses like the Bible, if the Bible were narrated by Mel Brooks on crack-laced manna. It’s a bawdy circus of theological vaudeville—Shadrach, Meshach and To-bed-we-go!—determined to sacrifice every sacred cow on the altar of farce.”—Ron Charles, The Washington Post “The Last Testament is billed as a message from God as transcribed by David Javerbaum, the former head writer and executive producer of ‘The Daily Show With Jon Stewart,’ whose specialty is chutzpah. With no apparent qualms Mr. Javerbaum steps into the infinitely big shoes of the Almighty to deliver a series of pronouncements, gags, parodies of Biblical passages and even a 12-step program envisioned from God’s point of view. . . . The Last Testament is fearless . . . a recklessly funny set of gags about all things religious and quite a few things secular too.”—Janet Maslin, The New York Times “I can’t be sure, but I think the famously blasphemous Mark Twain (who once said he didn’t want to go to heaven because he hated harp music) would have chuckled his way through Javerbaum’s book. Maybe even snorted. Because it’s very funny. Offensive to some, for sure, but very funny.”—A.J. Jacobs for The Globe Mail “A ‘memoir’ by God [The Last Testament] does what The Daily Show does so well—it satirizes religion by both taking it seriously and not taking it seriously at all, using humor to both point out the inconsistencies of the holiest texts and to describe God’s codependent relationship with celebrities.”—Salon.com “This book plays spin doctor for the Big Guy, in the form of a really new testament. Author David Javerbaum, formerly a writer and producer for 'The Daily Show With Jon Stewart,' brings that show’s arch snappiness to his task, laying out what God really had in mind . . . If you’re a churchgoer you might ask, well, isn’t this sacrilegious? In many places, decidedly so. And if the human temptation is to continually imagine God in our own image (face it, you think God agrees with your positions on abortion, taxes and political parties, don’t you?), The Last

Testament does so with a vengeance, quoting a pop-culture-savvy Creator who despises Sarah Palin and holds reliably progressive social views. . . . People of faith should be glad when religious themes show up in popular discourse, even if it's for a cheap joke. Better to be satirized than to be ignored. And, of course, the premise of 'The Daily Show' is in effect: Satire can be the best vehicle for truth."—Buffalo News "Spit-take funny."—The Jewish Daily Forward "Oh, God . . . There are enough laughs here, not to mention a dazzling underlying knowledge of theology, to give plenty of props to Javerbaum."—Booklist (starred review) "A blithely blasphemous satire of monotheism. . . . Adherents of every Abrahamic faith will find plenty of hilarious, offensive manna for thought in these revelations."—Publishers Weekly "Damned comical. Amen."—Kirkus s "Absurdity reigns in The Last Testament. . . . A wickedly funny introduction to the opinions and modus operandi of God, 'King of the Universe.'"—ShelfAwareness.com "I want every Christian I know to have a copy of this book."—NewAtheism.Blogspot.com "No doubt the old rogue savors the irony that the most appreciative readers of his Last Testament are likely to be atheists. He might even have written it specially for them."—The Atheist Conservative.com "There's something pitch-perfect about the tone and tenor of The Last Testament . . . Readers from every religion will find things to laugh at and/or be offended by in this book."—January magazine "An irreverent look at Judaism, Christianity and Islam, sparing no religion, or religious leaders, any barbs."—The Christian Post "[David Javerbaum] takes ghost writing to new heights. . . . The entire book is written to provoke laughter. That isn't a bad thing in a world where we take ourselves far too seriously, most of the time."—Ottawa Citizen About the Author David Javerbaum is a former head writer and executive producer of The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. He is the coauthor of that show's bestsellers, *America: The Book* and *Earth: The Book*, and author of the pregnancy parody *What to Expect When You're Expected*. Excerpt. © Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

An Act of God PROLOGUE 1 n the beginning, I took a lunch with Daniel Greenberg of the Levine Greenberg Literary Agency. 2 For the future of print was without hope, and void; and darkness had fallen upon the face of the entire publishing industry. 3 So one day Daniel, my agent, whom I have been with forever; by which I do not mean literally "forever," as I started out unrepresented, but a good 25 years or so; 4 Anyway, Daniel got us a table at Balthazar; for he knows someone there. 5 So we met, and exchanged pleasantries, and sat down, and caught up; and in time I coyly came around to asking him why he wanted to see me, although I knew, and he knew that I knew, and I knew that he knew that I knew; but lo, this is how the game is played. 6 And then, over a frisée aux lardons that they were not serving in heaven then, but they are now, he spoke unto me: 7 "O LORD our God, King of the Universe, here's what I'm thinking. 8 Thy previous books have sold an impressive six billion copies; 9 They form the basis of three great religions, and five crappy ones; 10 They have been translated into 2,453 languages, including that of a fictional race of TV aliens wearing shoe polish; 11 They can be found in every synagogue, church, mosque, and Comfort Inn in the world; 12 And most importantly, they have done for faith, and ethics, and morality, what The Bartender's Bible hath done for bartending. 13 But lo, it has been nigh on 14 centuries since thy last book—" 14 "Forget not The Book of Mormon," I interrupted. 15 "Thy last serious book," he continued; "and now a pestilence has befallen our tribe; books go unread; bookstores go unpatronized; libraries remain Dork Central; 16 And while digitalization presents an opportunity, it is also a challenge; the paradigm is shifting; I don't know if thou dost follow the trades, but content-wise—" 17 "I follow everything!" I bellowed, using the reverb voice and thunder-rumbling sound that I am wont to employ on such occasions. 18 "Forgive me, LORD," said Daniel; "I shall rend my garment and grovel in thy sight later. 19 I mean only to say, that if I were to approach major publishing houses with a proposal for God's last testament, it would make a pretty strong pitch." 20 "But of what shall it be composed?" I asked, pressing my fork into the poached egg, then idly watching its liberated amber yolk ooze seductively over the farm-fresh chicory. 21 "For I have already imparted all my wisdom, and bestowed all my law, and revealed all my truth; 22 And also I confess to being sore afraid, that I may not have another book in me"; 23 And at this I sighed, and turned away, and did earnestly wonder if I still "had it." 24 And Daniel said, "Surely this is not the same confident, All-Powerful God who parted the Red Sea, and bore his son through a virgin mother, and . . . and . . . well, I've never read the Koran, but I'm sure thou didst some amazing things in there also. 25 Besides, the book I envision is not like unto those. 26 For in the book I envision, thou wouldst revisit thy greatest hits—the Old and New Testaments, and the Koran if thou insistest—but in a manner more in keeping with the modern custom; 27 Meaning, that thou shalt 'open up' about their events; and 'share' thy feelings; and 'dish' about the various public figures therein, thus creating a 'telleth-all.' 28 (That's not a bad title, by the way.) 29 Then thou shalt continue the tale by describing thy activities and whereabouts over the past one thousand four hundred years; a period I suspect many of thy devotees have a few questions about. 30 And then thou shalt finish with a sneak peek into the future, with perhaps a brief glimpse of what lies in store for the end of the world; which, again, I think may be of some interest to thy hardcore fans. 31 But checketh it out, for here is the best part: Interspersed throughout shall be a series of short essays on matters of contemporary interest; such as natural disasters, and America, and celebrities, and regional athletic contests, and whatever other bits of frivolity thou conceivest; 32 The better to cater to the sensibilities of the modern reader, whose capacity for following unbroken written narrative hath dwindled to the size of a piece of Jonathan Franzen's neck-stubble. 33 My point, G-Man"—and here Daniel reached across the table and grabbed the hem of my garment in a way few ten-percenters have ever done without an insta-smiting— 34 "Is that I love thee as a deity, and worship thee as an

author; so I would have thee find new favor among men, by coming down off thy pedestal and humanizing thyself, 35 That thou might once again top the best-seller list, only this time in the modern era: 36 An era in which, I would remind thee, royalties can be properly accounted for.” 37 Then he fell silent; and long I pondered. 38 Yea, long I pondered; until slowly the ancient desire to spread my word among man that he may glorify me, began to stir in my spirit once more. 39 And the waiter came and separated Daniel’s check from mine; and Daniel picked up both checks; for he saw that that would be good.